United Nations S/2014/669

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 15 September 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit the joint letter dated 29 August 2014 from Ernest Bai Koroma, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, President of the Republic of Liberia, and Alpha Condé, President of the Republic of Guinea, which details the impact of the Ebola virus disease and puts in evidence the impact of the outbreak and highlights its implications for West Africa and beyond (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) BAN Ki-moon

14-60971 (E) 160914

Please recycle

Annex

As you are no doubt aware, the sister republics of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone are presently entrapped by the largest recorded outbreak of the dreaded Ebola virus disease, an epidemic that has placed enormous strain on our institutions, especially our health-care systems. This unprecedented outbreak occurred as we were enjoying relative peace, security and stability within the subregion and making collective efforts to enhance the socioeconomic development of our countries and peoples. At a time when we are still putting together the basic components of our health infrastructure, and already producing improved infant and maternal mortality outcomes, the epidemic has dealt a devastating blow to our efforts. The rates of infection and death among health-care workers, as well as the fears of those who would otherwise seek non-Ebola-related medical attention, have had a chilling effect on our health sectors, leaving some common diseases untreated. In the face of these challenges, we have taken decisive and substantive steps to contain the disease. We have in varying initiatives from our respective Governments restricted movements in parts of our countries, declared a state of emergency, suspended non-essential government-work, closed schools, stopped the operations of nightclubs, cinemas and video centres, and brought in the military to assist Government departments in fighting the disease.

The World Health Organization is now providing strategic support and coordination to help combat this disease. With your appointment of Mr. David Nabarro, as Senior Coordinator of the United Nations System Response to Ebola and across the spectrum, international response is being scaled up. With this comprehensive response augmenting our efforts, we are confident that we are now close to reversing the spread of the outbreak.

Yet, Mr. Secretary-General, we now face virtual economic sanctions and trade embargoes that will end up aggravating the effect of the outbreak on our economies and stifling our attempts to control the epidemic. Most of the airlines have suspended or cancelled flights to our countries. One of the remaining airlines, Brussels Airlines, is now under pressure to suspend flights to the region. They have been denied and refused technical stopover rights all along the West African coast, making it increasingly difficult for them to continue services to our capitals. Petroleum product suppliers received a notice forbidding ships berthing in Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone from docking at Pointe Noire. As the sanctions widen, it will become impossible to bring in the international expertise and supplies required to end the outbreak. Prices have already begun to rise and these sanctions will cause them to escalate even further at a time when domestic production has slowed dramatically. This could have disastrous economic consequences that transcend the subregion and could potentially return our countries to poverty levels that prevailed during earlier periods of conflict and instability. Some of the potential economic effects include cancellation of new investments or expansion of operations of large mines, drastic cuts in tourism, shortages of imported goods and cancellation of meetings in the subregion.

Ebola is spread through direct contact with the blood, secretions, organs or body fluids of infected living or dead persons. This is why it has been mostly family members of the infected and health workers who have contracted the virus. The World Health Organization, the International Civil Aviation Organization and the International Air Transport Association have been clear that such blanket travel bans

are not necessary and may actually prolong the fight against the disease. They may even counteract all the actions we have taken to encourage behavioural change, which is crucial to breaking the transmission chain.

Since the fall of the Berlin Wall, the world has inexorably marched towards deeper integration, reducing it to a global village. The world has collectively benefited from this integration as trade and commerce have spread to the extent that even the most underdeveloped countries find themselves in the value chains of the most developed. In the face of a challenge to that system, it appears that the rest of the world is leaving Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone ostracized, sanctioned and abandoned. It is not enough to send donations and supplies while our economies are left to die of slow strangulation. As impressive as our gains have been since the end of civil war, conflict and instability in our countries, those gains are fragile and reversible. It now appears that these sanctions are hastening a reversal. Everything we have collectively achieved in the Mano River Union over the last decade is now threatened.

We are therefore requesting the intervention of the United Nations with our neighbours far and near to end the sanctions. We appreciate the need for caution to prevent the disease from spreading beyond the current incidence countries and we are prepared to cooperate with our neighbours in instituting such measures. We request a United Nations resolution on a comprehensive response to the Ebola virus disease outbreak. The resolution would include:

1. Coordinated international response to end the outbreak.

   (a) The World Health Organization providing strategic guidance for overall response and the restoration of basic health service.

2. Coordinated international response to supporting the societies and economies of affected countries during the outbreak.

   (a) Maintaining trade links with reasonable precautions;

   (b) Maintaining transportation links with reasonable precautions.

3. International public education campaign.

By adopting such a resolution, we will be able to adequately respond to the crisis and minimize the effect on the economies of our affected countries.

It is our fervent hope that this matter will be given sympathetic consideration and treated with urgency.

(*Signed*) Ernest Bai **Koroma**
President of the Republic of Sierra Leone

(*Signed*) Ellen Johnson **Sirleaf**
President of the Republic of Liberia

(*Signed*) Alpha **Condé**
President of the Republic of Guinea

United Nations S/2014/670

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 September 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolution 2173 (2014) of 27 August 2014 on the situation in Darfur, in paragraph 5 of which the Council requested an update by 15 September 2014 on the streamlining of the civilian component of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

As endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 2148 (2014) of 3 April 2014, streamlining UNAMID components is an integral part of the implementation of the strategic review presented in my special report of 25 February 2014 (S/2014/138). Accordingly, over recent months the mission has recalibrated its activities towards the three newly defined strategic priorities, discontinued all other tasks and conducted a comprehensive assessment and adjustment of personnel and material capacities of UNAMID.

As stated in my report of 15 April 2014 (S/2014/279), the first phase of streamlining focused on assessing uniformed personnel and some civilian sections (HIV/AIDS, gender, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, child protection and rule of law). This process led to a reduction of 723 individual police officers, four formed police units, four professional police posts, 200 military observers, staff officers and liaison officers, and one heavy transport company, as well as of 84 civilian staff, representing 46 per cent of the posts in those civilian components.

The second and third phases concentrated on the remaining substantive sections, as well as the mission support and security sections. These exercises have resulted in the reduction of a further 1,055 posts, comprising 171 substantive, 591 mission support and 293 security posts. In this regard and in accordance with paragraph 5 of resolution 2173 (2014), I intend to submit, for the consideration of the General Assembly, a phased reduction of an overall 1,139 posts, or 24 per cent of the approved civilian component of UNAMID. It is my intention that this reduction will be implemented by the end of 2015, with the expectation that the majority of the downsizing will take place within the first six months. I will keep the Security Council apprised of progress in this regard.

There will also be a corresponding impact on the operational resources required by the mission. While a comprehensive assessment will be presented in the context of my next budget proposal, adjustments to major logistical capacities include reductions in vehicle holdings by up to 1,000 vehicles, including approximately 200 medium/heavy vehicles, as well as in the aviation fleet.

I would be grateful if you could bring this matter to the attention of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) BAN Ki-moon

14-61056 (E) 170914

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United Nations S/2014/671

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 16 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Further to our previous letters regarding the Sudanese national inclusive dialogue, I would like first to acknowledge the welcome and encouragement received so far from the Security Council for that process, namely the relevant provisions contained in Council resolution 2173 (2014), and to convey to you and through you to the esteemed members of the Security Council that the national dialogue is progressing on the right track in view of the high positive response of all the Sudanese political parties and civil society organs as well as the armed groups.

As we stated clearly in our previous letters and in our statement before the Security Council, the goals and objectives of this dialogue are to achieve constitutional, political and societal participation on the basis of consensus among all Sudanese in order to achieve the state of justice, good governance and an effective political system which will lead to overcoming the remaining crises and achieving lasting peace and stability.

For the purposes of successful proceedings of that dialogue, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan has granted all the necessary measures for confidence-building and a conducive environment, including, inter alia, the release of all political detainees, full political freedom and freedom of expression and press in order to conduct an inclusive, credible, transparent and nationally owned dialogue led by the Sudanese themselves.

In this regard, I have the honour to enclose herewith the agreed road map for the Sudanese national inclusive dialogue (see annex) as a concept to guide the deliberations, and having brought that to your kind attention, we reiterate our request to the Security Council to call once again upon all Sudanese parties and armed groups to engage constructively in this process and refrain from any action that may impede the smooth proceeding of this dialogue.

Finally, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

14-61203 (E) 260914

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Annex to the letter dated 16 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic, English and French]

National dialogue conference

Under the motto "Sudan: a homeland for all"

Following the significant response of the political parties and their calling on each other for the meeting with the President of the Republic and the significant progress achieved by the national dialogue approach, a vision for a dialogue conference to move forward has emerged to implement the practical arrangements for the pace of the national dialogue.

First: goals and objectives of the dialogue

1. The establishment of constitutional, political and societal institutions within a framework of consensus among the Sudanese to create a just State, good governance and an effective political system.

2. Cooperation and advocacy among all Sudanese to overcome all the crises of the Sudan.

3. Consensus on the constitution and legislation that ensure freedom, rights, social justice and agreement on independent instruments for the protection of those rights.

4. Consensus on the legislation and procedures necessary to hold fair elections under the supervision of a politically, financially and administratively independent commission.

Second: requirements for a conducive environment and trust-building measures

1. (a) Release all political detainees; (b) ensure political freedom and full freedom of expression and publishing; (c) avoid hate speech and media squabbling among parties to the dialogue; (d) put in place the guarantees necessary for the personal safety of the members of armed movements who are to participate in the dialogue and a comprehensive ceasefire with full security arrangements.

2. The judiciary is the body concerned with the issues of publishing and expression, and exceptional procedures should not be adopted, particularly during the dialogue.

Third: basic principles of the dialogue

1. Inclusiveness with respect to participation and themes.

2. Transparency.

3. Adherence to and implementation of the outcomes.

Fourth: venue

Friendship Hall or any other place agreed upon.

Fifth: duration of the dialogue

One to three months.

Sixth: Chairperson

The President of the Republic shall chair the sessions. In his absence, the meeting shall be chaired by one of the political party leaders who is a member of the High Coordination Committee.

Seventh: the conference structures

1. The General Assembly.
2. The conference committees.
3. The High Coordination Committee.
4. The Secretariat General.

Eighth: composition and functions of the conference

1. **The General Assembly**

Membership of the conference

(a) The registered and informed political parties.

(b) The movements' signatories to the peace agreements.

(c) Armed movements which agree to participate in the dialogue.

(d) Fifty national figures, prominent figures and community leaders (to be agreed upon).

(e) Every party or movement shall be represented by one person, with another person as an alternate.

(f) Every party, movement or the national figures participating in the conference shall have one vote.

2. **Conference committees**

The conference shall form six committees to address the following issues:

(a) Peace and unity.

(b) Economy.

(c) Freedoms and basic rights.

(d) Identity.

(e) Foreign relations.

(f) Governance issues and the implementation of the dialogue outcomes.

- Every party or movement participating in the conference shall be represented by one person in any of the conference committees.
- The committees shall discuss the different themes and raise their recommendations to the High Coordination Committee to submit them to the assembly for discussion and approval.
- The committees shall be chaired by qualified experts (to be agreed upon).
- General sessions will put forward the recommendations.
- Closing session (declaration ceremony).

3. **High Coordination Committee**

7+7 of the parties' leaders or persons acting on their behalf in the Government and the opposition (the number can be increased equally upon agreement between the two parties).

Functions of the High Coordination Committee

(a) Determining the membership of the conference.

(b) Determining the themes of the conference.

(c) Coordinating the works of the committees.

(d) Overseeing the works of the Secretariat General.

(e) Promoting the national dialogues among the Sudanese people and others.

(f) Leading the dialogue to its conclusion.

(g) Following up on the implementation of the conference outcomes.

4. **The Secretariat General**

The Secretariat General shall be composed of experienced and competent national figures to be agreed upon (former diplomats, academicians of various universities, etc.)

Functions of the Secretariat General

(a) Following up on the sessions of the committees and the conference; taking notes on the proceedings, pointing out of agreements and differences and referring them to the High Coordination Committee.

(b) Providing studies, research and papers.

(c) Documenting the conference proceedings.

(d) Any other functions as assigned by the High Coordination Committee.

Ninth: decision-making process

The decisions of the conference shall be taken by consensus, or, where this is not possible, by a 90 per cent majority of the participants in a meeting for which there is a quorum.

Tenth: mechanisms for the implementation

Upon agreement on the outcomes of the dialogue, an executive mechanism and any other mechanisms shall be agreed upon to implement the outcomes of the dialogue.

Eleventh: conference media

Through a joint media committee of the two parties, official State media will be deployed to support the dialogue (establishment of website, conference logo, periodicals and statements of the spokesperson for the conference).

Twelfth: observers

Extend invitations to the African Union, the Arab League, the African Union High Executive Panel and any other organizations or persons to be agreed upon.

Thirteenth: compromisers

Agreement shall be reached on a number not exceeding five national figures as facilitators whose mission shall be to reconcile the differences between the parties to the dialogue.

Fourteenth: post-conference stage

Follow-up on the implementation of the conference outcomes through the High Coordination Committee with the President of the Republic.

Fifteenth: guarantee of the dialogue

The Sudanese will be the prime guarantors of the implementation of the dialogue outcomes.

Khartoum, 9 August 2014

United Nations A/ES-10/657–S/2014/672

General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Sixty-ninth year

Identical letters dated 17 September 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I am compelled to draw your attention to the very fragile, unstable situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem — the Territory that constitutes the State of Palestine — resulting from the continued illegal policies and practices being pursued by Israel, the occupying Power, in grave breach of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, and in blatant disregard of the appeals and demands of the international community.

While the suffering and hardships of the Palestinian people are growing exponentially under the impact of these illegal and punitive Israeli measures, the diminished prospects for peace are further dwindling. The consequences of inaction are far-reaching, especially in the light of the volatile situation on the ground and throughout the region, and require urgent attention and action by the international community to redress this ongoing injustice and to salvage the prospects for peace.

In the occupied Gaza Strip, almost the entirety of the Palestinian civilian population remains vulnerable and traumatized following the more than 50-day criminal Israeli military aggression, which wrought massive human devastation and physical destruction in all areas. This humanitarian disaster remains without remedy owing to the ongoing Israeli blockade restricting the sustained, regular and sufficient flow of desperately needed food, medical, fuel and other humanitarian assistance and the entry of construction materials necessary to begin the overwhelming task of reconstruction.

Moreover, the number of victims of the Israeli onslaught continues to rise, adding to the more than 2,150 Palestinians, including over 500 children and 250 women, killed by the Israeli occupying forces. Of the more than 11,000 Palestinians injured, civilians continue to die from their wounds owing to the severity of those wounds and/or the lack of life-saving medical treatment and basic medicines and supplies in Gaza. The latest victim, a young Palestinian, 22-year-old Anas Tayseer

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Al-Hinnawi, an engineering student, died of his wounds on Sunday, 14 September, in a hospital in Jordan.

The despair of the displaced families also remains immense, as more than 100,000 Palestinians have lost their homes as a result of the wanton, widespread destruction deliberately inflicted by the occupying Power across Gaza, where entire communities and neighbourhoods have been obliterated. Of the displaced, 65,000 people remain in schools of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), sheltering under desperate conditions and in need of continuous emergency humanitarian aid, including food, water and hygiene essentials.

While recognizing the extraordinary efforts of UNRWA and all the partner agencies of the United Nations system and international humanitarian organizations working under difficult circumstances to provide vital assistance to the Palestinian people, we reiterate our appeal for the urgent provision of greater humanitarian support, commensurate with the massive scope and scale of this disaster, and furthermore reiterate our call for the full lifting of the Israeli blockade and opening of the Gaza Strip border crossings. Both are imperative for alleviating the human suffering and for undertaking the reconstruction of homes, schools, hospitals and water, sanitation and electricity infrastructure, essential for recovery to begin from the unimaginable devastation so cruelly and systematically imposed by Israel, the occupying Power, in grave breach of international humanitarian law and in collective punishment, amounting to war crimes and crimes against humanity.

In the occupied West Bank, including East Jerusalem, the situation also remains precarious and tensions are rising as Israel continues with all of its illegal measures, in particular its settlement activities in all manifestations. In this regard, we reiterate our condemnation of the Israeli decision to confiscate 4,000 dunums of Palestinian land in the Bethlehem area, the largest seizure of Palestinian land in more than two decades, under the guise of declaring it "state land". Moreover, we reiterate our demand that the occupying Power rescind this decision, which is illegal and in total contradiction to the two-State solution on the basis of the pre-1967 borders, destroying what is left of the viability of this solution, and demand that Israel cease all of its settlement activities in the Occupied State of Palestine. We also draw attention to the continuing provocations and incitement by Israeli settlers and extremists, including at Al-Aqsa Mosque compound in Occupied East Jerusalem, and reiterate our warnings of the many grave dangers in this regard.

At the same time, we must draw the international community's attention to the ongoing Israeli military raids throughout the West Bank and the arrest and detention of hundreds more Palestinians civilians, in addition to the hundreds arrested during the months of July and August. In the past two weeks, more than 300 Palestinians civilians have been arrested by the Israeli occupying forces, with another 22 Palestinians in Occupied East Jerusalem detained just yesterday, including children as young as 12, 13 and 14 years of age. Currently, more than 6,000 Palestinians are being held in the occupying Power's prisons, enduring torture, abuse and horrific conditions of captivity. In this regard, on 9 September, a Palestinian man, Raed Al Jaa'bari, age 35, died after beatings endured while in an Israeli prison, including several blows to the head, adding to the list of Palestinian victims of the ruthless and illegal Israeli prison system.

Excessive, indiscriminate force also continues to be routinely employed by the Israeli occupying forces against the Palestinian civilian population, causing wilful death and injury in grave violation of international humanitarian law. Lethal force continues to be used, in particular against civilians peacefully protesting against the occupation, including against the settlements and the wall. Another victim of such force was a 16-year-old Palestinian boy, Mohammed Sinokrot, who died on 7 September of wounds sustained when he was shot by the Israeli occupying forces in Occupied East Jerusalem in earlier clashes. Also, on 10 September, occupying forces shot and killed 23-year-old Issa Al-Qatari at Al-Ama'ari refugee camp near Ramallah.

In the light of all of these ongoing Israeli violations, we reiterate our appeal to the international community, including the Security Council, to act responsibly to address this grave crisis throughout the Occupied State of Palestine, including the terrible humanitarian disaster that persists in Gaza. Collective action must be taken to uphold international law and to give meaning to the many relevant United Nations resolutions that remain unimplemented, including the adoption of practical measures to compel Israel, the occupying Power, to cease its violations and crimes and abide by its legal obligations, without exception.

Ending impunity is imperative for addressing this injustice being suffered by the Palestinian people, for addressing the immediate humanitarian needs, and for salvaging the dim prospects for peace. This is also imperative for creating the conditions necessary for the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive solution to the conflict as a whole, a solution long overdue and as urgent as ever. In this regard, I draw attention to the resolutions adopted in Cairo on 7 September 2014 by the foreign ministers of the League of Arab States, and the support given to the Palestinian initiative to seek a Security Council resolution delineating a time frame for an end to the Israeli occupation that began in 1967, on the basis of the long-standing parameters enshrined in United Nations resolutions, the Madrid principles, the Arab Peace Initiative and the Quartet road map. We will continue to seek the broadest support for these efforts in order to expedite bringing a definitive end to this illegitimate 47-year military occupation of the Palestinian land and achieve the rights and freedom unjustly denied to the Palestinian people.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 521 letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 2 September 2014 (A/ES-10/656-S/2014/646), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed against the Palestinian people. Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable, and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations

United Nations S/2014/673*

Security Council

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18 September 2014

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Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Federated States of Micronesia, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Surinam, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zambia: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 2176 (2014) adopted on 15 September 2014 concerning the situation in Liberia and its press statement of 9 July 2014,

Recalling its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Expressing grave concern about the outbreak of the Ebola virus in, and its impact on, West Africa, in particular Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, as well as Nigeria and beyond,

* Reissued for technical reasons on 19 September 2014.

14-61235* (E) 190914

Please recycle

Recognizing that the peacebuilding and development gains of the most affected countries concerned could be reversed in light of the Ebola outbreak and *underlining* that the outbreak is undermining the stability of the most affected countries concerned and, unless contained, may lead to further instances of civil unrest, social tensions and a deterioration of the political and security climate,

Determining that the unprecedented extent of the Ebola outbreak in Africa constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

Expressing concern about the particular impact of the Ebola outbreak on women,

Welcoming the convening of the Mano River Union Extraordinary Summit, held in Guinea on 1 August 2014, and the commitments expressed by the Heads of State of Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to combat the Ebola outbreak in the region, including by strengthening treatment services and measures to isolate the outbreak across borders,

Taking note of the measures taken by the Member States of the region, especially Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone, as well as Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire and Senegal, in response to the Ebola outbreak and *recognizing* that the outbreak may exceed the capacity of the governments concerned to respond,

Taking note of the letter (S/2014/669) dated 29 August 2014 to the Secretary-General from the Presidents of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, requesting a comprehensive response to the Ebola outbreak, including a coordinated international response to end the outbreak and to support the societies and economies affected by restrictions on trade and transportation during the outbreak,

Recognizing the measures taken by the Member States of the region, in particular Côte d'Ivoire, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Mali and Senegal, to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the most affected countries,

Emphasizing the key role of Member States, including through the Global Health Security Agenda where applicable, to provide adequate public health services to detect, prevent, respond to and mitigate outbreaks of major infectious diseases through sustainable, well-functioning and responsive public health mechanisms,

Recalling the International Health Regulations (2005), which are contributing to global public health security by providing a framework for the coordination of the management of events that may constitute a public health emergency of international concern, and aim to improve the capacity of all countries to detect, assess, notify and respond to public health threats and *underscoring* the importance of WHO Member States abiding by these commitments,

Underscoring that the control of outbreaks of major infectious diseases requires urgent action and greater national, regional and international collaboration and, in this regard, *stressing* the crucial and immediate need for a coordinated international response to the Ebola outbreak,

Commending Member States, bilateral partners and multilateral organizations for the crucial assistance, including financial commitments and in-kind donations, provided to and identified for the affected people and governments of the region to support the scaling up of emergency efforts to contain the Ebola outbreak in West Africa and interrupt transmission of the virus, including by providing flexible funds

to relevant United Nations agencies and international organizations involved in the response to enable them and national governments to purchase supplies and enhance emergency operations in the affected countries, as well as by collaborating with public and private sector partners to accelerate development of therapies, vaccines and diagnostics to treat patients and limit or prevent further infection or transmission of the Ebola virus disease,

Expressing deep appreciation to the first-line responders to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa, including national and international health and humanitarian relief workers contributed by the Member States of diverse regions and non-governmental organizations such as Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and *also expressing appreciation* to the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) for transporting humanitarian personnel and medical supplies and equipment, especially to remote locations in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, during the outbreak,

Welcoming the efforts of the African Union (AU), in coordination with bilateral partners and multilateral organizations, to craft a united, comprehensive and collective African response to the outbreak, including through the deployment of healthcare workers to the region, and also the efforts of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to support steps to contain the spread of the Ebola virus, including through the support of the defense forces of its Member States,

Expressing concern about the impact, including on food security, of general travel and trade restrictions in the region and *taking note* of the AU call on its Member States to lift travel restrictions to enable the free movement of people and trade to the affected countries,

Emphasizing the role of all relevant United Nations System entities, in particular the United Nations General Assembly, Economic and Social Council, and Peacebuilding Commission, in supporting the national, regional and international efforts to respond to the Ebola outbreak and *recognizing*, in this regard, the central role of the World Health Organization (WHO), which designated the Ebola outbreak a public health emergency of international concern,

Stressing the need for coordinated efforts of all relevant United Nations System entities to address the Ebola outbreak in line with their respective mandates and to assist, wherever possible, national, regional and international efforts in this regard,

Taking note of the WHO Ebola Response Roadmap of 28 August 2014 that aims to stop transmission of the Ebola virus disease worldwide, while managing the consequences of any further international spread and *also taking note* of the 12 Mission Critical Actions, including infection control, community mobilization and recovery, to resolve the Ebola outbreak,

Taking note of the WHO protocols to prevent the transmission of the Ebola virus disease between individuals, organizations and populations, *underlining* that the Ebola outbreak can be contained, including through the implementation of established safety and health protocols and other preventive measures that have proven effective and *commending* the efforts of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to communicate, including through UNMIL Radio, such protocols and preventive measures to the Liberian public,

Reiterating its appreciation for the appointments by the Secretary-General of David Nabarro as the United Nations System Senior Coordinator for Ebola Virus Disease and of Anthony Banbury as the Deputy Ebola Coordinator and Operation Crisis Manager operating from the Crisis Response Mechanism of the United Nations, activated on 5 September 2014 and which aims to consolidate the operational work of the United Nations System, Member States, non-governmental organizations and other partners focused on providing assistance to the affected countries in response to the Ebola outbreak, as well as to ensure United Nations System assistance to developing, leading and implementing an effective response to the broader dimensions of the outbreak that include food security and access to basic health services,

Welcoming the intention of the Secretary-General to convene a high-level meeting on the margins of the sixty-ninth United Nations General Assembly to urge an exceptional and vigorous response to the Ebola outbreak,

1. *Encourages* the governments of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea to accelerate the establishment of national mechanisms to provide for the rapid diagnosis and isolation of suspected cases of infection, treatment measures, effective medical services for responders, credible and transparent public education campaigns, and strengthened preventive and preparedness measures to detect, mitigate and respond to Ebola exposure, as well as to coordinate the rapid delivery and utilization of international assistance, including health workers and humanitarian relief supplies, as well as to coordinate their efforts to address the transnational dimension of the Ebola outbreak, including the management of their shared borders, and with the support of bilateral partners, multilateral organizations and the private sector;

2. *Encourages* the governments of Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea to continue efforts to resolve and mitigate the wider political, security, socio-economic and humanitarian dimensions of the Ebola outbreak, as well as to provide sustainable, well-functioning and responsive public health mechanisms, *emphasizes* that responses to the Ebola outbreak should address the specific needs of women and *stresses* the importance of their full and effective engagement in the development of such responses;

3. *Expresses concern* about the detrimental effect of the isolation of the affected countries as a result of trade and travel restrictions imposed on and to the affected countries;

4. *Calls on* Member States, including of the region, to lift general travel and border restrictions, imposed as a result of the Ebola outbreak, and that contribute to the further isolation of the affected countries and undermine their efforts to respond to the Ebola outbreak and *also calls on* airlines and shipping companies to maintain trade and transport links with the affected countries and the wider region;

5. *Calls on* Member States, especially of the region, to facilitate the delivery of assistance, including qualified, specialized and trained personnel and supplies, in response to the Ebola outbreak to the affected countries and, in this regard, *expresses deep appreciation* to the government of Ghana for allowing the resumption of the air shuttle of UNMIL from Monrovia to Accra, which will transport international health workers and other responders to areas affected by the Ebola outbreak in Liberia;

6. *Calls on* Member States, especially of the region, and all relevant actors providing assistance in response to the Ebola outbreak, to enhance efforts to communicate to the public, as well as to implement, the established safety and health protocols and preventive measures to mitigate against misinformation and undue alarm about the transmission and extent of the outbreak among and between individuals and communities and, in this regard, *requests* the Secretary-General to develop a strategic communication platform using existing United Nations System resources and facilities in the affected countries, as necessary and available, including to assist governments and other relevant partners;

7. *Calls on* Member States to provide urgent resources and assistance, including deployable medical capabilities such as field hospitals with qualified and sufficient expertise, staff and supplies, laboratory services, logistical, transport and construction support capabilities, airlift and other aviation support and aeromedical services and dedicated clinical services in Ebola Treatment Units and isolation units, to support the affected countries in intensifying preventive and response activities and strengthening national capacities in response to the Ebola outbreak and to allot adequate capacity to prevent future outbreaks;

8. *Urges* Member States, as well as bilateral partners and multilateral organizations, including the AU, ECOWAS, and European Union, to mobilize and provide immediately technical expertise and additional medical capacity, including for rapid diagnosis and training of health workers at the national and international level, to the affected countries, and those providing assistance to the affected countries, and to continue to exchange expertise, lessons learned and best practices, as well as to maximize synergies to respond effectively and immediately to the Ebola outbreak, to provide essential resources, supplies and coordinated assistance to the affected countries and implementing partners and *calls on* all relevant actors to cooperate closely with the Secretary-General on response assistance efforts;

9. *Urges* Member States to implement relevant Temporary Recommendations issued under the International Health Regulations (2005) regarding the 2014 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa, and lead the organization, coordination and implementation of national preparedness and response activities, including, where and when relevant, in collaboration with international development and humanitarian partners;

10. *Commends* the continued contribution and commitment of international health and humanitarian relief workers to respond urgently to the Ebola outbreak and *calls on* all relevant actors to put in place the necessary repatriation and financial arrangements, including medical evacuation capacities and treatment and transport provisions, to facilitate their immediate and unhindered deployment to the affected countries;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to help to ensure that all relevant United Nations System entities, including the WHO and UNHAS, in accordance with their respective mandates, accelerate their response to the Ebola outbreak, including by supporting the development and implementation of preparedness and operational plans and liaison and collaboration with governments of the region and those providing assistance;

12. *Encourages* the WHO to continue to strengthen its technical leadership and operational support to governments and partners, monitor Ebola transmission,

assist in identifying existing response needs and partners to meet those needs to facilitate the availability of essential data and hasten the development and implementation of therapies and vaccines according to best clinical and ethical practices and *also encourages* Member States to provide all necessary support in this regard, including the sharing of data in accordance with applicable law;

13. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

United Nations S/2014/674

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 15 September 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), which was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1401 (2002). I should like to inform you of my intention to appoint Nicholas Haysom (South Africa) as my Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of UNAMA.

Mr. Haysom will replace Ján Kubiš (Slovakia), who will complete his assignment on 31 October 2014. Mr. Haysom will assume his functions in Afghanistan on 1 November 2014. I should like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Mr. Kubiš for his dedication and leadership of UNAMA, serving in one of the most challenging duty stations during a period that has seen important developments, most notably presidential elections, the inauguration of a new President and the transition of security responsibilities to the Government of Afghanistan.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) BAN Ki-moon

14-61132 (E) 180914

Please recycle

United Nations S/2014/675

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 September 2014 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 15 September 2014 (S/2014/674) concerning your intention to appoint Nicholas Haysom (South Africa) as your Special Representative for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They take note of the intention expressed in your letter.

(*Signed*) Samantha **Power**
President of the Security Council

14-61133 (E) 180914

Please recycle

United Nations S/2014/676

Security Council

Distr.: General
17 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

With reference to the misleading and baseless information widely circulated by certain media circles regarding the Sudanese aircraft that landed in Kufra Airport, Libya, on 4 September 2014, I have the honour to state the following naked facts:

1. Pursuant to the Joint Military and Security Cooperation Protocol signed between the Government of the Republic of the Sudan and the Government of Libya on 9 August 2012 (the signatory part from Libya was Abdallah Abdulrahman Al-Thani, Minister of Defence at that time, who is currently the Prime Minister of Libya), a joint force from the two countries has been deployed along the borders, and according to the provisions of that protocol, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan agreed to provide 70 per cent of the military supplies for the joint forces while the Government of Libya provides 30 per cent.

2. Due to the current crisis in Libya, the Libyan Government was not able to fulfil its logistical commitments according to that protocol, furthermore the Libyan commander of the joint forces has formally requested the Sudanese part many times to provide all the needed logistical support for the joint border forces, including the ammunition and weapons (a copy of his letter dated 7 August 2014 is herewith attached) (see annex).

3. In line with its obligations according to the aforementioned protocol, the Government of the Republic of the Sudan deployed, on 4 September 2014, the Sudanese military aircraft (Antonov-74) loaded with the needed logistical military supplies to Kufra Airport after getting first the approval and clearance from the Libyan Authority, namely the commander of the joint forces from the Libyan part, Colonel Suliman Hamid Hassan, who received the said flight.

Having brought these facts to your kind attention, I would like to reiterate our total rejection of such outrageous and unwarranted accusations, which contravene the excellent brotherly relations between Sudan and Libya, and the unwavering commitment of the Government of the Sudan towards peace and stability in Libya.

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Rahamtalla Mohamed Osman **Elnor**
Permanent Representative

14-61140 (E) 180914 190914

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 17 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]
[7 August 2014]

To: Commander of the Sudanese force

We should like to express our great appreciation for the effective role you play in protecting our shared borders. We should also like to inform you that, owing to political circumstances in Libya, we have not been able to obtain what we need in order to continue operating. Accordingly, we might be obliged to withdraw the Libyan force that is operating along the border in accordance with the agreement. The State has thus far not provided us with anything.

Please note that we are currently in great need of various types of ammunition, certain weapons, an ambulance, a water tanker truck and a fuel tanker truck.

(*Signed*) Colonel Suliman Hamid **Hassan**
Commander, Kufra Operations Group

United Nations S/2014/677

Security Council

Distr.: General
18 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine concerning the statement of Russian Defence Minister Sergey Shoygu on the deployment of a full-scale and self-sufficient military force in Crimea (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and its annex were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yuriy Sergeyev
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

14-61212 (E) 190914

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Annex to the letter dated 17 September 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine concerning the statements of Russian Defence Minister Sergey Shoygu

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine is concerned about a statement by Russian defence minister Sergey Shoygu circulated in a number of Russian media outlets concerning the deployment of a full-scale and self-sufficient military force in Crimea.

Having created a "grey zone" in part of the sovereign territory of Ukraine, which de facto is currently not covered by any multilateral arrangements in the sphere of arms control, the Russian Federation continues to build up its military presence in the Crimea and to create military attack groupings with unclear objectives. The reasons for such military preparations provided by the Russian defence minister — a build-up of a foreign military presence near Russian borders and the aggravation of the situation in Ukraine — cannot withstand scrutiny, especially considering the recently reached ceasefire agreement in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine regards the statement of Sergey Shoygu as one that destabilizes the situation in the entire Black Sea region.

Ukraine urges the Russian Federation to stop provocative actions that threaten the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and peace in the region.

United Nations S/2014/678

Security Council

Distr.: General
19 September 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 17 September 2014 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit a communication dated 11 September 2014 from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, forwarding a report on the International Security Assistance Force operations in Afghanistan, covering the period from 1 May to 31 July 2014 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you could bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) BAN Ki-moon

14-61317 (E) 230914

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Annex

Letter dated 11 September 2014 from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization addressed to the Secretary-General

In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1386 (2001) and 2120 (2013), I attach a report on the operations of the International Security Assistance Force covering the period from 1 May to 31 July 2014 (see enclosure). I would appreciate it if you would make the report available to the Council.

(*Signed*) Anders Fogh **Rasmussen**

Enclosure

Quarterly report to the Security Council on the operations of the International Security Assistance Force

I. Introduction

Overview

1. The present report responds to the request made by the Security Council in its resolution 2120 (2013) and informs the Council on the implementation of the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF). It covers the period from 1 May to 31 July 2014. The continuation of ISAF redeployment and the second round of the presidential election were the key events during the quarter under review.

2. The ISAF campaign continues to focus on the development of the Afghan security institutions[1] and the Afghan National Security Forces in order to set conditions for the completion of a successful security transition on 31 December 2014. ISAF continues to develop the sustainability of the Afghan forces and seeks to mitigate capability gaps and developmental shortfalls. More specifically, gaps and shortfalls remain in ministerial capacity and connectivity, aviation, intelligence, fire support coordination, logistics and medical capabilities, counter-improvised explosive device capabilities and special operations capabilities.

3. ISAF remains well postured to set the conditions for the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) mission in Afghanistan in the period beyond 2014.

4. The Afghan forces have continued to mature and have demonstrated their ability to provide security across Afghanistan. They have maintained a high operational tempo and successfully secured the second round of the presidential election, a key event for this period, with limited ISAF support. Funding remains a key concern. Continued international funding will be required in order to maintain their current capacity.

International Security Assistance Force levels

5. As at 31 July, a total of 49,902 ISAF personnel were in theatre.

International Security Assistance Force casualties[2]

6. The number of ISAF casualties decreased by more than 70 per cent during the reporting period compared with the same period one year ago. The decrease in ISAF casualties is attributed to the Afghan forces having taken the lead for security and the systematic decrease in the number of ISAF forces in theatre.

[1] Afghan security institutions consist of the ministerial level: the Ministry of Interior; the Ministry of Defence; and the National Directorate of Security.

[2] Throughout the present report, the term "casualties" refers to both killed and wounded individuals as a consequence of the conflict in Afghanistan.

Civilian casualties

7. ISAF assesses that the number of insurgent-caused civilian casualties increased by 35 per cent in the reporting period compared with the same period in 2013 and accounted for 97 per cent of the total number of civilian casualty events. The insurgents' indiscriminate use of improvised explosive devices in populated areas remains the main cause of the majority of insurgent-caused civilian casualties.

8. Compared with the same quarter in 2013, the number of ISAF-caused civilian casualties decreased from 16 to 5, while the number of civilian casualties caused by the Afghan forces decreased from 73 to 41.

9. Reducing civilian casualties remains a priority for both ISAF and the Government of Afghanistan. ISAF continues to assist the Afghan authorities in mentoring and monitoring the full implementation of the established civilian casualty mitigation systems. However, the Afghan capacity to mitigate civilian harm, properly investigate incidents that do occur, make amends and draw lessons learned remains embryonic. Continued support for this area will therefore need to be a sustained focus for the Resolute Support mission.

Transition

10. The Afghan forces continue to improve in their ability to plan, coordinate and execute operations. It is assessed that the Afghan forces are on track to complete the transition later in 2014.

II. Security situation

11. The overall security situation within Afghanistan continues to improve. With ISAF support, the Afghan forces have continued to mature and have successfully led the security effort, which has been dominated by the electoral process, in terms of both operations and information.

12. Enemy-initiated attacks decreased compared with the same period in 2013. Key tactical successes of the Afghan Special Security Forces, which are trained, advised and assisted by the NATO Special Operations Component Command, have helped to significantly reduce the overall capacity of the enemy to initiate attacks and create space to conduct capacity-building efforts at the ministerial level.

13. Insurgents continued to focus their efforts on three main goals: establishing a dominant presence in rural areas; challenging the ability of the Afghan forces to provide security and discrediting the legitimacy of the Government; and maintaining their freedom of movement.

14. In order to influence and disrupt the electoral process, insurgents continued to use high-profile attacks with the aim of dominating media headlines. During the reporting period, several attacks occurred on Government of Afghanistan officials, including an assassination attempt on the presidential candidate Abdullah Abdullah on 6 June 2014. Overall, the insurgency was unsuccessful in disrupting the electoral process, thereby demonstrating the effectiveness of the Afghan forces. However, given the uncertain result of the election to date, the insurgents will continue to use allegations of electoral fraud, high-profile attacks and civilian casualties in order to undermine the effort to establish a strong unified government.

15. Peace talks between the Government of Afghanistan and the Taliban senior leadership did not make progress during the quarter under review and are assessed to be unlikely to do so in the near future. The Taliban senior leadership remains openly opposed to starting any peace initiatives with the current Afghan administration.

III. Afghan security institutions and Afghan National Security Forces

16. The Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police are nearly fully fielded. The main effort is now focused on professionalizing the force. It is currently assessed that the Afghan forces will be ready to take full responsibility for security in Afghanistan by 31 December 2014.

17. During the reporting period, the Afghan forces continued to make improvements towards achieving a self-sustainable force. Several examples demonstrated that the Afghan forces were capable of planning and executing complex offensive operations. The effective security provided by the Afghan forces during the run-off presidential election on 14 June 2014 helped to strengthen their self-confidence and to increase their credibility in the eyes of the Afghan people.

18. The Government of Afghanistan and the international community continue to make a strong effort in developing the Afghan Air Force, which should reach operational capability in 2018. At present, the Air Force is manned at approximately 90 per cent of its establishment and has the capability to conduct a limited number of missions, such as light airlift, reconnaissance and casualty evacuation.

19. The Afghan Local Police continues to play an important role in delivering local security, particularly in rural populated areas. There are currently 28,780 Afghan Local Police in 150 districts, with 27,817 in 145 districts completely transitioned to Afghan authorities. The Afghan Local Police programme is managed by the Ministry of Interior, with police paid by Ministry officials and their actions directed and supervised by Afghan provincial and district government officials.

20. The Afghan forces continue to improve their capabilities to train and develop their soldiers and units. There are currently approximately 70 functional training facilities, of which two thirds have been transitioned to the Afghan forces. The most challenging area for the Afghan forces remains the lack of experienced instructors.

21. The growth and development of the Afghan forces' health-care system continues to improve. The leadership of the Afghan forces remains actively engaged in the development of its hospital capabilities. There are currently eight functional hospitals, and the Afghan forces have focused their efforts on the management of casualties that are not time-critical, still relying on ISAF support for more urgent casualties, especially those requiring air medical evacuation capability. However, the Afghan forces' capability for ground casualty evacuation has improved.

22. Despite the positive developments in terms of building and training the force and the successful delivery of security, the Afghan forces still face challenges in sustaining the force. Despite being tactically and operationally effective in the field, the Afghan forces still require ongoing ISAF support in closing capability gaps and developmental shortfalls in ministerial capacity and connectivity, aviation,

intelligence, fire support coordination, logistics and medical capabilities, counter-improvised explosive device capabilities and special operations capabilities.

IV. Civil-military interaction

Governance support

23. The run-off presidential election held on 14 June 2014 was the key event during the reporting period. The Afghan forces were fully responsible for the planning and execution of election security, with ISAF providing logistical support upon request, including the delivery of sensitive electoral materials across the country before election day and during the audit process. ISAF continued to provide support and secure accommodation to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and European Union election support teams for the preparation and execution of their electoral observation mission.

24. The active engagement of NATO with the wider international community, Afghan civil society and the Government of Afghanistan continued during the reporting period through the NATO Senior Civilian Representative. Key areas were the negotiation of the NATO status-of-forces agreement and support for the efforts to improve the situation of women and the protection of children.

25. NATO is also represented at wider regional forums, such as the Istanbul Process in the Heart of Asia region and the International Contact Group of Special Representatives for Afghanistan and Pakistan. The most recent meeting of the International Contact Group was held in May 2014 and was focused on elections and the progress made in the overall Tokyo Mutual Accountability Framework process.

Development support

26. In the reporting period, the Swedish Provincial Reconstruction Team in Balkh closed. The Provincial Reconstruction Team in Jowzjan, operated by Turkey, is the last team in operation.

Support for international organizations/United Nations

27. In the reporting period, ISAF continued to support international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), within their means and capabilities, and to support United Nations humanitarian activities in complex emergencies. However, the continued decrease in ISAF troop numbers has had an impact on ISAF support for international organizations and NGOs, as ISAF is no longer able to geographically cover the whole territory of Afghanistan.

V. Redeployment

28. ISAF redeployment is on track.

29. Redeployment and disposal activities as well as basing drawdown remain fully coherent with the ISAF campaign plan in order to optimize the use of resources, facilities, movement infrastructure and lines of communication. Strategic airlift

capacity is sufficient to mitigate constraints on the use of the ground lines of communications and remains the fastest, most flexible and safest mode of transport.

30. NATO-brokered transit agreements are being maintained, and discussions with neighbouring countries have started to put in place the required arrangements to support the follow-on mission.

VI. Border crossing points

31. All border crossing points remained open to ISAF traffic during the reporting period.

32. Cross-border issues remain a source of tension between Afghanistan and Pakistan. A total of 100 cross-border incidents occurred in the quarter under review, with the bulk of the incidents attributed to indirect and direct fire. The majority of the incidents were located close to the border between Afghanistan and Pakistan, particularly in Kunar, Khost and Nangahar provinces.

33. ISAF continues to facilitate a dialogue and cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan in terms of counter-terrorism operations.

VII. Implementation by the International Security Assistance Force of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women and peace and security

34. During the previous quarter, ISAF efforts on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and related resolutions, through the integration of a gender perspective, continued to focus on Afghan female participation and gender integration in the security services, in close cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan and the international community.

35. The appointment of a Brigadier-General as Gender Adviser to the ISAF Commander had a positive impact on the cooperation between ISAF and security ministries on gender-related issues. Since her arrival in mid-April, the ISAF Gender Adviser has had numerous engagements with key leaders of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defence.

36. The network of gender (field) advisers and focal points continues to be instrumental in the implementation of gender perspectives and resolution 1325 (2000) by supporting the Commanders and staff in integrating relevant aspects into the planning, execution and assessment of ISAF activities. The network of gender focal points has improved, with regular meetings and other exchanges of information taking place between the military headquarters. These engagements have contributed to a better understanding of future strategies for further female recruitment, training and development in the Afghan forces, as well as of the need for those strategies to be supported with the necessary political will.

37. Approximately 2,000 women, or just over 1 per cent of the total force, are currently serving in the Afghan National Police. On 7 July 2014, 51 female officers destined for positions with an increasingly active role graduated from the Afghan National Police Academy. The ISAF Gender Adviser attended the graduation ceremony and addressed the female graduates.

38. The Afghan National Army currently has approximately 700 women serving, which is less than 1 per cent of the force. The Afghan National Army has reached an education and training capability of 550 female candidates per year. Both ministries continue to face challenges in areas such as gender-specific infrastructure requirements, the implementation of plans and policies, and human resources management. The newly developed curriculum of the Afghan Officers Academy, developed in conjunction with the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan and the Ministry of Defence Ministerial Advisory Group, plans to devote 23 hours to the issue. The topics are wide-ranging, from compliance with gender equality and diversity policy to the benefits of gender integration and ways to address sexual harassment and assault within the Afghan National Army.

39. For the remainder of the ISAF mission, and in the planning for the Resolute Support mission, NATO will focus its efforts on the further development of gender training capacity and programmes, gender adviser capacity within the military structures, the integration of gender perspectives into the existing operational planning and assessment tools of NATO, and the improvement of reporting mechanisms on gender-related issues.

40. In support of political efforts to promote the women and peace and security agenda, the NATO Senior Civilian Representative continued to regularly organize and attend meetings with members of civil society, Afghan authorities, including the Ministry for Women's Affairs, and the international community to discuss gender integration issues in the security sector. Discussions were focused on efforts to better protect and empower women in the Afghan forces and security ministries. Participants agreed that more work needed to be done to raise female recruitment into the Afghan security institutions and forces, protect those already serving, improve their working conditions and ensure that their roles and responsibilities were meaningful.

41. The Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently shared a draft of the Afghanistan national action plan on women, peace and security with Kabul-based embassies and international organizations, including NATO, requesting feedback. The development of this plan, which has been done in consultation with relevant Afghan ministries and civil society organizations, is a positive step towards the serious implementation of resolution 1325 (2000). It is aimed at establishing strategic objectives that involve all government agencies. The request by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented a great opportunity to improve the document and strengthen NATO collaboration with Afghanistan on this important agenda.

42. Finally, it is of note that Afghanistan was one of the NATO partner nations involved in the development of the recently agreed revised NATO Women, Peace and Security Policy and Action Plan. By associating itself to these documents, Afghanistan has made another commitment towards implementing Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and related resolutions in its national defence and security sectors.

VIII. Implementation by the International Security Assistance Force of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005)

43. ISAF efforts on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1612 (2005) and related resolutions have been focused on the inclusion of reporting and monitoring on children and armed conflict, as well as the training of local forces, as an integral part of the planning process for the NATO mission in Afghanistan in the period beyond 2014.

44. In terms of practical support, ISAF focal points were appointed to coordinate efforts, in cooperation with the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, on training, recruitment and legal advice within ISAF and the NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan. ISAF has continued to improve the education and training of the Afghan forces on children and armed conflict; has provided advice and assistance on child protection measures and security response of Afghan security institutions; and has supported the implementation of the United Nations-Afghan action plan for the prevention of underage recruitment and the recently signed road map towards compliance.

45. ISAF redeployment and transition to the non-combat Resolute Support mission has reduced the ISAF footprint and will have an impact on the ability to support and monitor progress on children and armed conflict. The level of both outreach and the detail of reporting will become increasingly dependent on the Afghan forces, but we are committed to continuing to support them in their compliance efforts.

IX. Conclusion

46. As ISAF sets the conditions for the NATO train, advise and assist mission in the period beyond 2014, the Afghan forces continue to improve their capability. The Afghan forces have successfully responded to insurgent attacks and rendered attempts to disrupt the election process ineffective. ISAF remains on track to make the transition to the Resolute Support mission, while continuing to address the critical shortfalls with respect to the long-term sustainability of the Afghan forces. International commitment and funding remain essential to continuing the development of government institutions for legitimate, credible and enduring governance, and to maintaining security and stability in Afghanistan post-2014. With continued NATO and international support, Afghanistan will be institutionally capable of fielding and sustaining professional forces that provide effective security for Afghanistan and the Afghan people.